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## There Is No Good Argument in Favor of Whipping a Child

Patience Is Immeasurably Better Than Punishment.

One of the valued readers of this newspaper has written a letter regarding the punishment of children in which we are sure you will be interested.

The letter is prompted by an editorial which appeared a short time ago in which the whipping of children was pointed out as being cowardly and brutal, the attack of the powerful on the weak.

The writer of the letter asks that his signature be not used, a request which does not lessen the interest or importance of his communication, which is as follows:

Some time ago an editorial appeared in your paper condemning the whipping of children in an effort to exact obedience and for the purpose of correction.

It was a great editorial, and I for one agreed with every word of it—then.

Recently, however, I have been confronted with the breaking down of all of my carefully planned and executed theories of child training.

I have three children—two boys (twins four and a half years) and a daughter two and a half years. None of them was ever whipped until a few days ago, when I administered a spanking to one of the twins.

He has delighted in gouging out pieces of the wall in the nursery. Suggestive correction, reasonable explanations why he should not do this, and withdrawal of privileges were tried repeatedly—but to no effect. Heretofore, with other habits needing correction, such methods have proven effective. Finally rewards were promised, and this scheme worked for a while. The marring of the wall, however, did not stop for long.

After a particularly big slice was hewn from the wall (several days ago), I gave the boy a spanking—his first. He now shuns all walls and apparently has not changed his attitude of comradeship with his Daddy.

This thing has worried me more than I can express, but the whipping in this case has put an end to wilful destruction.

I know you will be interested, and perhaps suggest the method that would have made the spanking entirely unnecessary.

P. B. J.

The whipping of a child is essentially brutal in that it is the opposing of two markedly unequal forces. No real man approves of pitting the strong against the weak.

In every other walk of life, except the treatment of children, we insist upon a reasonable likeness of ability between contestants, whether it be in a physical or a mental competition.

The grown man who strikes a child or who treats a child as a mental grown-up is taking advantage of his greater bulk and strength or his more fully developed reasoning powers.

What happens when you strike a child?

Of course, the flesh which you strike suffers neither pain nor pleasure at any time. Enjoyment and suffering are purely mental functions.

It is in his brain, transmitted there by the nerves, that the child feels the blow and the accompanying pain.

It is a certain fact that there is no sensation conveyed to the brain that does not cause an intelligent mental process.

If the sensation is pleasant, the thought is one of greater or less joy, or appreciation or approval.

If the sensation is unpleasant, the thought is of sorrow or disapproval or regret, and from those thoughts there naturally springs an intention to correct or, in the case of real or fancied injury, to revenge, and revenge is always accompanied by hatred.

The expression of that hatred and the gaining of that revenge may be hindered or prevented by fear, but the fear does not eliminate the desire.

It is certain that NO CHILD EVER RECEIVED A BLOW WHO DID NOT THEN AND THERE HAVE A SENSE OF RESENTMENT, a feeling of childish hatred.

It necessarily physically succumbs to the greater power, but its little brain becomes the storing place of hostility. If it was able, it would give expression to its thought in physical force.

The reason it sometimes obeys after punishment is that its subsequent acts are controlled by FEAR. And fear was never a source of strength to either child or man.

Fear is responsible for more suffering, more disease, more failure than any other influence in life. It is a bad thing to plant in a child's brain. It is a mental weed that will drive out many a useful and desirable thought.

PATIENCE is a great deal better than PUNISHMENT.

There may be, once in a great while, a child so mentally abnormal that patience is exerted to no effect. But most children, ninety-nine out of a hundred, are just as susceptible to patience as their undeveloped reasoning powers make possible for them to be.

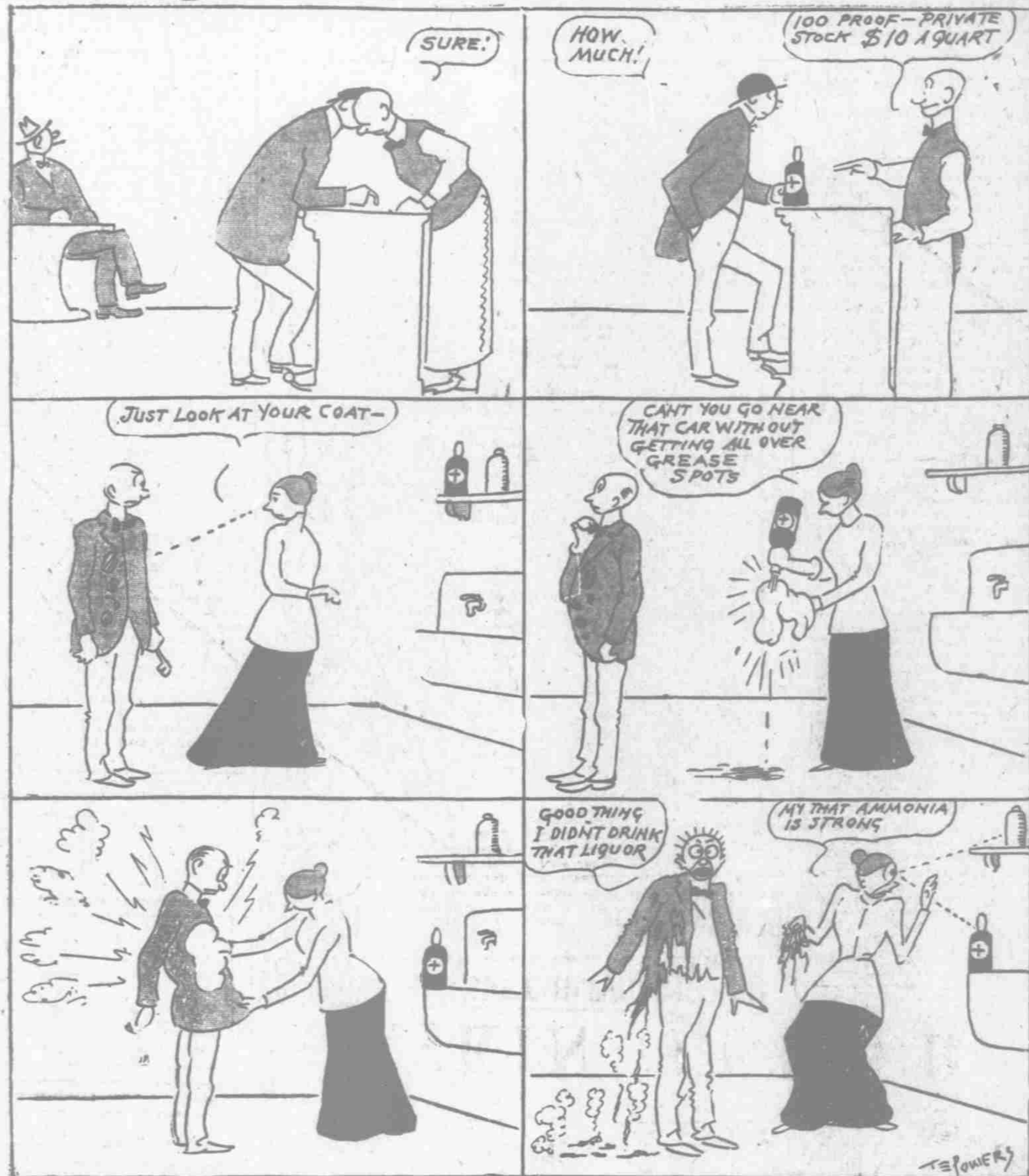
Every normal child will submit its desires and actions to reason if the reasoning is conducted on a childish level.

The everlasting question of a child's mind is "Why?"

(Continued At Bottom of Last Column.)

## The League of Husbands

They're Certainly Making It Strong By T. E. POWERS



## THE HASKIN LETTER

### THE LADIES LIFT BUNNY'S HIDE

By Frederic J. Haskin.

THE old nursery rhyme about getting a rabbit skin to wrap your baby bunting in has ceased to be fiction. Thousands of grown-up babies are trotting around this fall wrapped in rabbit skins, and thousands of American husbands are hunting for money enough to pay the resultant bills. For a rabbit skin coat, traveling under some alias, such as "sealine," near seal or cone, now costs anywhere from sixty-five to a hundred and fifty dollars.

This rage for rabbit fur has grown up entirely since the beginning of the war, and has apparently not yet reached its height. It is the latest development in a long process by which the majority of the fair ones have come down from wearing seal and ermine and mink and fox, as they did a generation ago, to the condition of being glad if they can get house cat, skunk, muskrat, or rabbit fur without bankrupting their husbands.

Even the humble skunk and the muskrat are fast becoming scarce under the pressure of a fashionable demand which makes it necessary for every woman to wear fur, not only in winter, but even in midsummer, when the faded coats a good deal in perspiration as well as money.

#### Fortunate Things.

This rise of the humble bunny to a place of honor about midday's neck and shoulders is the one fortunate thing about this abnormal and unseasonable rage for furs. It has depleted the world's supply of nearly every other fur-bearing animal, because most of these animals are wild ones, and the high prices offered for their pelts has been an inducement to hunt them to extinction. True, some progress has been made in domesticating several species. There is a small industry in fox farming, skunks are raised in considerable numbers, and a few mink are produced in captivity. One man in Ohio has made a success of raising bears on a farm. But the wild fur-bearers must still be relied upon for most of the supply, and all of them are steadily becoming scarcer.

The fur-bearing rabbit stands on an entirely different footing. He is essentially a domestic animal, and has been for hundreds of thousands of years. Hence the sudden demand for his pelt has increased his numbers instead of decreasing them. A whole new industry of rabbit farming has grown up in this

country in the past four years. It has reached its greatest dimensions in certain States where there is a ready market for rabbit meat as well as for the fur. Ohio, Michigan, and California are especially good rabbit States.

#### Even Rabbit Kings.

We even have rabbit kings and rabbit plutocrats now. For example, shortly before the war a certain man of Belgian birth in New York observed with interest the growth of a demand for tanned rabbit skins. It was wanted at that time chiefly for trimmings, but this man saw that the demand would grow because other furs were becoming more and more hard to get. Furthermore this man knew all about the preparation of rabbit skins. His father had made a business of tanning and dyeing them in Belgium, where they have been

used to some extent for a long time. He therefore knew the value of a rabbit skin and how to treat it. He hired a barn in New Jersey, advertised for rabbit skins, and went to work. In 1915, he made \$250,000. He is advertising for ten million rabbit skins this year.

The rabbit skin is at best pretty weak material. The skins of the various American rabbits are altogether too tender for use as fur. It is only the European rabbit which is used for this purpose. Its hide is about as good as sheepskin, but not nearly as tough as the hides of most fur-bearing animals.

#### Founders New Industry.

Despite these drawbacks the advent of rabbit fur is decidedly a good thing. It has founded a new industry in this country in which almost anyone may engage with

very little capital. And the inevitable by-product of rabbit fur is rabbit meat, which is nourishing and delicate. In many States there is already a permanent and dependable market for it—notably in California, where rabbit is listed in the market quotations every day.

A good many people remember the rage for Belgian hares which struck this country some fifteen or twenty years ago. Everyone was going to raise Belgian hares for the market and for home consumption. But at that time beef and mutton were cheap, and there was no market for rabbit skins. The Belgian hare fell into disrepute, overrated and ultimately overproduced. The result was that many persons lost money and the Belgian hare fell into disrepute.

The domestic rabbit makes his second debut in America under much more favorable auspices. Meat is scarce and high, and rabbit skins are bringing prices that sometimes range as high as \$1.50 each. The industry is already on a sound and apparently permanent basis in three or four States, and is spreading rapidly. Dr. Ned Dearborn, of the Biological Survey, advises those who are interested in rabbit farming to begin by raising rabbits only for home consumption, and to increase the size of the operation as the market develops. Breeding stock may now be sold at good prices.

Thus, although rabbit fur does not last long, it is always easy to produce more of it, and to add a valuable item to the national bill of fare at the same time.

#### Amateurs in Business.

Many wealthy amateurs are now going in for rabbit-raising, and this is a good thing for the business, as these fanciers breed for show points and tend to keep the stock up to standard. A wealthy woman who owns an eleven-hundred acre estate on Long Island, makes rabbit-raising her chief hobby. She feeds her rabbits with her own diamond-decked hands, and is frequently seen running about with a big Belgian buck clasped in her silken embrace. When conditioning her best rabbits for a show she feeds them on a beaten mixture of fresh eggs, malted milk, and sweet milk, which makes them very fat and sleek.

Bunny has not only got into big business of late, but also into high society.

## The Zone Fare Is NOT a Success

New Jersey Seems To Have Had Enough of It Already.

By EARL GODWIN.

New Jersey went into a trance for a year and emerged with a wondrous zone-fare plan which had not been in operation one week without causing riot and bloodshed.

Now comes the news that even the railroad companies are tired of the zone fare. I quote from a news dispatch:

"Officials of the Jersey company have appealed to their Public Utilities Board asking an immediate return to the straight fare plan. They claim that since the zone-fare plan has been in operation for the last three weeks they have been losing \$12,000 daily."

People don't WANT a zone fare. It is psychologically wrong, to say the least.

It imposes an extra tax on going to work on those who have gone into the suburbs to build a home for the wife and children.

It works toward increasing the congestion in the already overcrowded sections of the city.

It NEVER will give Washington the service the city deserves, and it will never be the final answer to the vexing traffic problems.

There is only one way to settle the street railway problem, and that is to run the roads for the benefit of the passengers and to charge a straight five-cent fare with universal transfers until such time as the two roads here can be merged into one.

One of our roads is making a good return on a five-cent fare. The other is not. The thing to do is to merge the two roads and charge a five-cent fare for superservice, taking any deficit from general taxation.

Street railways should be run in the interest of the city just as every other municipal necessity is operated.

The day has gone long ago when street railways can be properly considered merely as the property of the individuals owning them. (The service belongs to the people at large.)

## HEARD AND SEEN

J. W. B. sees evidence in a theatrical advertisement from New York that the District of Columbia is out of the U. S.

"The Luck of the Navy," played here at Poli's last week its first presentation in the United States.

J. W. B. sends me a clipping from a New York paper advertising the opening of the show there in its AMERICAN PREMIERE.

Was Cy Young Left Handed?

OLD FAN who petitions me to "lay off" baseball, says he wasn't. This outburst comes as the result of printing an excellent baseball story in this column Sunday in which Cy Young was mentioned as a "port-wheeler," or whatever the baseball writers call a left-handed pitcher. "If you MUST do it," continues OLD FAN "let Louis Dougher censor your stuff. Old Cy Young was left-handed just like Caruso has a bass voice. Also he had about the best control of any pitcher, etc. etc."

LOUIS DOUGHER laughed at me for two hours this a. m. Then he explained.

There was Old Cy Young. He pitched on the Boston Americans. Then there was Young Cy Young. He pitched on the Boston Nationals at or about the time Old Cy Young was hurrying for the Boston Americans.

Young Cy Young was left-handed.

Then there was Cy Young the 3d, right-handed, Chicago. And there was another Cy Young, the 4th, who Louis says, never got out of the bushes.

#### Everybody satisfied?

The Village Philosopher. A headline says that five MORRIS agencies are going to help A. Mitchell Palmer fight the H. C. L. Events this past six weeks make it look like he needs all the help he can get.

Our secretary says that couple wed sixty years without a quarrel must have been dead long ago.

There ought to be a medal for the man who can view a handful of small change

without saying: "Looks like someone had been in a crap game."

The fellow who called them universal transfers ought to get a look at 'em today.

This movement for three-hour days seems to have taken root in some of our schools.

The queen of Belgium wears a sea-horse bathing suit, which means they couldn't let her go swimming down at the bathing beach.

Turkey dealers have put out the animal print agent stuff about shortage of the national bird at Thanksgiving time.

#### Case of Misunderstanding.

A Mt. Rainier Mother of Two Boys recently wrote a letter protesting against the arrest of a youngster at Ninth and G streets. She was informed that they had been fighting. Bicycle Policeman Leo Murray, who took the boy to the station, after his arrest by Traffic Policeman Morgan, tells me that the boys had not been fighting, but that a serious offense had been committed by the one arrested. The crowd about the corner at the time did not understand the seriousness of the offense, and was angry at the detention of a boy for indulging in what they thought was mere mischief. The boy was tried and charged with two extremely serious cases yesterday and sent to the Reform School.

Speaking of MILK, has anyone any idea why the lunch room at the Internal Revenue Bureau's office at 14th and B streets should get more than many another Government lunch room?

Talk about your handsome drug clerks you just ought to go in King's Drug Store, 14th and Thomas Circle and see the best looking bunch in town, especially brown-eyed Kid Tate.

A READER.

## THERE IS NO GOOD ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF WHIPPING A CHILD

(Continued From First Column.)

It asks it about everything. It is the reaching out of the undeveloped intellect for knowledge.

If the grown man was as inquisitive as the child and as insistent and forceful about getting information, we would have a world of intellectual giants.

No parent would confess that his child was unable to grasp ideas suitable to a child, or would acknowledge that his offspring lacked in reasoning powers. But when he enforces obedience with punishment he says, in effect: "My child does not know enough to be controlled by anything but pain and resulting fear."

Striking a child is wrong. It is impossible for the child to do anything as wrong as the parent does when he inflicts painful punishment.

Every child will reason with you if you will reason with it.

Patience will conserve and increase his affection, and there can be no possible reasoning by which we can conclude that love will thrive on violence.

No child was ever benefited by a whipping.

It is harmed physically and mentally, and no parent who strikes a child can look himself in the face with quite the same approval and self-admiration that he did before he took a cowardly advantage of his inferior in strength and intelligence.

If our correspondent had done a thing of which he was proud and elated, the performance would not have troubled him as he confesses it did.